

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CARACA 05268 082246Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
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P 082200Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2601
INFO AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 5268

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT PERP PINS DR
SUBJECT: DOMINICAN SITUATION

REF: CARACAS 5187

1. IN A LONG CONVERSATION WITH THE AMBASSADOR
JUNE 8, PRESIDENT PEREZ COMMENTED THAT DOMINICAN
VICE PRESIDENT ELECT MAJLUTA (BUT NOT PENA GOMEZ) DID
ARRIVE IN CARACAS YESTERDAY AFTERNOON AFTER A DELAYED
(FOR REASONS UNSPECIFIED) DEPARTURE. PEREZ ALSO EX-
PLAINED THAT HE HAD FIRST CHECKED WITH BALAGUER TO
ASCERTAIN IF HE HAD ANY PROBLEMS WITH MAJLUTA ACCEPTING
AN INVITATION FROM PEREZ TO COME TO CARACAS BECAUSE HE
DID NOT WANT "TO DO ANYTHING BEHIND BALAGUER'S BACK."

2. HIS PURPOSE, PEREZ SAID, WAS TO OBTAIN A FIRST
HAND VERSION OF THE SITUATION AND TO COUNSEL THE PRD
TO REMAIN COOL AND MODERATE. PEREZ SAID THAT MAJLUTA
WAS CALM AND NOT OVERLY PESSIMISTIC, ALTHOUGH THERE
WAS CONCERN OVER THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS REGARDING
THE ELECTORAL BOARD (JCE).

3. PEREZ SAID THAT HE THOUGHT BALAGUER NOW HELD
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THE KEY. WHILE AT THE BEGINNING THE MILITARY MAY HAVE
BEEN PREPARED TO ACT EVEN IN DEFIANCE OF BALAGUER,
THEY WOULD NOT DO SO NOW. IT WAS IMPORTANT, THEREFORE,
TO CONVINCE BALAGUER THAT HIS PLACE IN HISTORY
NOW DEPENDED ON HIS TURNING OVER POWER TO A DULY ELECTED
PERSON. BALAGUER THEREFORE HAD A CHANCE TO BE A HERO.
HE THOUGHT THAT THIS CONCEPT SHOULD BE STRESSED TO

BALAGUER IN EVERY WAY POSSIBLE.

4. PEREC SAID HE HAD THOUGHT OF SUGGESTING TO TORRIJOS THAT THE LATTER INVITE LOPEZ MICHELSON AND THE COLOMBIAN PRESIDENT-ELECT ALONG WITH BALAGUER AND GUZMAN, THUS PUBLICLY LEGITIMIZING THE LATTER SITUATION. HOWEVER, GIVEN THE PICTURE IN COLOMBIA THIS DID NOT NOW APPEAR FEASIBLE.

5. PEREZ SAID THAT HE HAD IN HIS POSSESSION TAPES OF CONVERSATIONS IN WHICH THE ARREST OF THE OFFICIAL WHO HEADS THE JCE COMPUTER CENTER WAS PLANNED AS WELL AS OTHER SIMILAR TAPES. IT WAS CLEAR TO HIM, HE SAID, THAT "MANIOBRAS" WERE PLANNED. HE THOUGHT, THE PRESIDENT SAID, THAT IT WAS NECESSARY NOW TO MAINTAIN QUIET, FIRM PRESSURE ON ALL CONCERNED TO AVOID ANY "GOLPISTA" ADVENTURE.
VAKY

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